

APPEAL FOR SUPPORT FOR THE INDEX HOLMENSIS PROJECT

The INDEX HOLMENSIS is an index of plant distribution maps with world-wide coverage. It is the only international bibliography on distribution of vascular plants in area and vegetation maps.

We have so far published four volumes, i.e. volume I, covering vascular cryptogams and gymnosperms, volume II containing *Monocotyledoneae* A-I, volume III *Monocotyledoneae* J-Z, and finally volume IV covering *Dicotyledoneae* A-B, together more than 1000 pages. We intend to continue to publish one volume each year. The total number of distribution maps so far published is estimated at about 400,000, all of which will finally be listed in the index or its supplement. Although the main work is at present done at the Swedish Museum of Natural History in Stockholm, the indexing work is served by an international editorial board. Members of this board to some extent guarantee completeness of the file for their particular area.

Still, the number of area and vegetation maps published annually is growing rapidly owing to the increased importance that is felt for the geographic compound of plant taxa. Consequently, not only are there wide areas all over the world where the entire flora is mapped systematically, but mapping has become a common feature in monographs in different fields, as for instance economic botany, palaeobotany, vegetational history, palynology, and last but not least phytocoenology.

In order to keep the file for the INDEX HOLMENSIS and its planned supplement volumes up-to-date we hereby ask our fellow botanists to inform us about their published maps and/or to send reprints of their publications. Needless to say, we shall also continue to supply all information on distribution maps so far not published in the INDEX HOLMENSIS to colleagues on request.

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